

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CENT.01USU1

Inventor(s): Robert E. Sutton

Examiner:

Application No.: 09/896,705

Group Art Unit: 2161

Filing Date: June 29, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR PROVIDING FINANCIAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3600

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Sir:

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Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## In the claims:

Cancel claims 1-21 without prejudice in favor of a continuing, divisional or reissue application.

Add new claims 22-28 as follows:

22. (New) A method of managing risk in making vehicle loans on vehicles to credit impaired borrowers on a loan-by-loan basis comprising:

> establishing a financial service provider to manage said risk, said financial service provider providing services comprising:

qualifying said credit-impaired borrowers using underwriting guidelines; locating financial institutions desiring to make said vehicle loans;